

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/607,534

Applicant(s)

KITANO, HISASHI

Examiner

VAN T. PHAM

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to ____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-17.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date ____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date ____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other ____


WAYNE YOUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

Reason for Allowance

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-17 are allowed.

Haruguchi Takashi discloses an optical pickup device comprising: a frame (see Fig. 6); an integrated optical unit incorporated in the frame and equipped with a first semiconductor laser diode (see Fig. 6, diode 21); and a driving circuit formed on the flexible substrate for driving the first semiconductor laser diode (see Fig. 6), wherein the flexible substrate is wound along the frame.

Noda et al. discloses an optical pickup device comprising: a frame; an integrated optical unit incorporated in the frame and equipped with a first semiconductor laser diode; a flexible substrate having a first connector on one end thereof (see Fig. 1 and connector 21, lens 30), a first short-circuit (see Fig. 1, circuit board 20); and a driving circuit formed on the flexible substrate for driving the first semiconductor laser diode (see Fig. 1).

Tanaka discloses an optical pickup device comprising: a frame (see Fig. 6); an integrated optical unit incorporated in the frame and equipped with a first semiconductor laser diode (see Fig. 6, diode 21); and a driving circuit formed on the flexible substrate for driving the first semiconductor laser diode (see Fig. 6), wherein the flexible substrate is wound along the frame.

None of the cited references disclose or suggest a flexible substrate having a first connector on one end thereof, a second connector on other end thereof, and a first short-circuit wiring pathway connected between the first connector and the second connector; so that the first connector of the short-circuit wiring pathway is connected to the optical unit and thereby connected to the semiconductor laser diode, and the second connector is connected to the driving

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circuit, which allows driving current to be supplied from the driving circuit to the semiconductor laser diode through the short-circuit wiring pathway.

2. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Cited References

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The cited references relate to

a. Optical element carrying printed substrate and optical head device using the substrate (Ujihara US 4,978,844.

b. Objective lens drive apparatus applicable to optical disk apparatus (Noda et al. US 5,216,649).


4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VAN T. PHAM whose telephone number is 571-272-7590. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 9:00am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wayne Young be reached on 571-272-7582. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

VP



WAYNE YOUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER